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Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on December 2, 2002.

*Judy Bridgewater*  
Judy Bridgewater

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

DEC 11 2002

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

In the application of:

Masahiko MIHARA

Serial No.: 09/381,598

Filing Date: 20 September 1999

For: PREVENTATIVES OR REMEDIES FOR  
SENSITIZED T CELL-RELATED  
DISEASES CONTAINING IL-6  
ANTAGONISTS AS THE ACTIVE  
INGREDIENT

Examiner: J. Murphy

Group Art Unit: 1646

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

This is in response to an Office action herein mailed May 30, 2002, setting a time for response to expire on August 30, 2002. A petition for an extension of time of three (3) months, which extends the time for response until November 30, 2002, is attached herewith along with the required fee. As November 30, 2002 falls upon a Saturday, this amendment is timely filed on Monday, December 2, 2002. Pending claims 14-22 and 24-32 were rejected in the Office action. Careful consideration has been given to the grounds for rejection and the following remarks are offered in response. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Attached is Exhibit A, which is entitled "Marked Version of the Claims."